

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANTIA 01490 070002 Z

66-62

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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P 062349 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3955

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 1490

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, OVIP (PRATS, CARLOS)

SUBJECT: GENERAL PRATS' TRIP

REF: STATE 061756, SANTIAGO 1340

1. THIS AFTERNOON BRANIFF MANAGER CARLOS BRUNSON CAME BY ON WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS A CONFIDENTIAL MATTER. HE TOLD ME THAT THE CHILEAN AUTHORITIES - WITHOUT GIVING ANY NAMES - HAVE RESERVED FIRST CLASS PASSAGE FOR 11 PERSONS WITH THE FOLLOWING ITINERARY: BRANIFF 978 MAY 2 TO WASHINGTON; BRANIFF 114 MAY 6 TO NEW YORK; PANAM 100 MAY 8 TO LONDON; AEROFLOT 312 MAY 10 TO MOSCOW; YUGOSLAV 133 MAY 18 TO BELGRADE; AIR FRANCE 713 MAY 22 TO PARIS; AIR FRANCE 515 MAY 26 TO MADRID; AND BUA 661 MAY 31 TO SANTIAGO.

2. BRUNSON ADDED THAT HE HAS RECEIVED INFORMAL AND CONFIDENTIAL INTIMATIONS THAT ALL THREE SERVICE COMMANDERS IN CHIEF AND THEIR WIVES AND POSSIBLY EVEN ALLENDE MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN TAKING THIS TRIP. BRUNSON WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION ALLENDE CAN BE ABSENT FROM CHILE 30 DAYS WITHOUT CONGRESSIONAL PERMISSION, AND WAS SOMEWHAT SHAKEN IN HIS CONFIDENCE THAT ALLENDE MIGHT BE TRAVELING WHEN I ADVISE HIM THAT THIS PERIOD WAS IN FACT FIFTEEN DAYS.

3. COMMENT: MY GUESS IS THAT BRUNSON HAS WIND OF PRATS' TRIP. IN THIS CONNECTION IT MAY BE WORTH NOTING FOR ACTION PURPOSES WHAT WE PRESUME ARE PRATS' PLANNED DATES IN WASHINGTON. WE DO NOT HAVE INFORMATION INDICATING OTHER

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COMMANDERS IN CHIEF MIGHT BE TRAVELING. RE ALLENDE, SUCH
TRIP WOULD HAVE HIM OUT OF CHILE FOR THE CONVOCAION OF THE
NEW CONGRESS AND HIS OWN STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS.
DAVIS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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